

## Democracy and Human Rights Programs

**U.S. Embassy funds DHRF projects:** On September 30, 2005, the Ambassador of the United States to Cape Verde, Roger D. Pierce, signed four agreements under the Democracy and Human Rights Program, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Representing the government of Cape Verde was the Director of International Cooperation who thanked the United States for its continued support and commitment to the development and prosperity of Cape Verde.

In his remarks to the representatives of the local NGOs and the press, Ambassador Pierce acknowledged that although the awards are modest, the impact will be incalculable. Projects include radio in the classrooms, a project that will supplement traditional teachings and allow access to rich, high quality education in the remote island of Maio, seamstress training for women head of households, providing them with income generating skills, a youth magazine that will represent the voices of Cape Verdean youth, addressing social, political, health and educational issues and encouraging their active participation in civil society and finally, the sponsoring of the II International Human Rights Conference in Cape Verde, which themes include Women's Participation in Politics and the Inclusion of Cape Verde's Disabled.



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1. Ambassador Pierce and Vera Duarte (President of the National Human Rights Commission, *II International Human Rights Conference*)
2. Ambassador Pierce and Jorge Figueiredo (Mayor of Sal, *Seamstress Training Project*)
3. Ambassador Pierce and Paulo Verissimo (President of MINIS, *MINIS Youth Magazine*)